

Message Text

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COME-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 OIC-02 SIL-01
STR-04 TRSE-00 CIEP-02 CEA-01 NSC-05 SS-15 DODE-00
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EB/IDF/ODF:AADAMS

EB/OT/GCP:GSLATTERY (SUBS)

AID/PPC/IA:MSCHUWEILER (SUBS)

L/UNA:DSTEWART

D/LOS:RBLUMBERG (SUBS)

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TAGS: UNGA, EGEN, EAID

SUBJECT: 31ST UNGA: SECOND COMMITTEE - DRAFT RESOLUTIONS
UNDER ITEM 56, (A) ACTION PROGRAMS IN FAVOR OF DEVELOPING
ISLAND COUNTRIES; (B) SPECIAL MEASURES IN FAVOR OF LAND-
LOCKED DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

REF: USUN 5755

1. DELEGATION MAY GO ALONG WITH ADOPTION OF THE TWO
RESOLUTIONS QUOTED IN REFTEL PROVIDED CHANGES ALONG THE
FOLLOWING LINES CAN BE MADE.

2. BOTH RESOLUTIONS CONTAIN INACCURATE REFERENCES TO
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UNCTAD RESOLUTION 98 (IV) AND SHOULD THEREFORE BE CORRECTED

FOR THE SAKE OF ACCURACY AS WELL AS FOR POLICY CONSISTENCY. THESE REFERENCES FAIL TO DRAW THE DISTINCTION MADE AT UNCTAD -- AFTER A CONSIDERABLE FIGHT -- BETWEEN "SPECIAL MEASURES" FOR THE LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES AND "SPECIFIC ACTIONS" FOR THE LANDLOCKED AND ISLAND DEVELOPED COUNTRIES. THE DISTINCTION MAY APPEAR STRAINED, BUT IT BECAME CLEAR IN THE UNCTAD DEBATE THAT THE PHRASE "SPECIAL MEASURES" IMPLIES A CATEGORY OF ASSISTANCE MORE SUBSTANTIAL, COMPREHENSIVE AND LONGER TERM THAN DOES "SPECIFIC ACTIONS," WHICH ARE BASICALLY AD HOC IN NATURE. AS FAR AS WE ARE CONCERNED, THE DISTINCTION REFLECTS NOT ONLY OUR RELUCTANCE TO SEE A PROLIFERATION OF SPECIAL AID CATEGORIES BUT ALSO RECOGNIZES INDIRECTLY THAT "LEAST DEVELOPED" REPRESENTS THE BASIC AND ECONOMICALLY MORE VALID CATEGORY, WHICH IN ANY EVENT COVERS MANY OF THE LANDLOCKED AND ISLAND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. WE RECOGNIZE THAT THIS DISTINCTION HAS NOT ALWAYS BEEN MADE (E.G. THE USE OF "SPECIAL MEASURES" IN GA RESOLUTIONS 3169 (XXVIII), 3311 (XXIX) AND 7TH SPECIAL SESSION RESOLUTION 3362), BUT NOW THAT IT HAS BEEN MADE WE CONSIDER IT IMPORTANT TO MAINTAIN IT.

3. FOR THE AFOREMENTIONED REASON THE WORDING OF THE THIRD PREAMBULAR PARAGRAPH OF DRAFT RESOLUTION L.47 ON THE ISLAND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES SHOULD BE CHANGED TO READ "SPECIAL MEASURES IN FAVOR OF THE LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES AND SPECIFIC ACTIONS RELATED TO THE PARTICULAR NEEDS AND PROBLEMS OF THE LANDLOCKED AND ISLAND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES"; AND IN OPERATIVE PARAGRAPHS 2 AND 3 "SPECIAL MEASURES" SHOULD BE CHANGED TO "SPECIFIC ACTIONS."

4. LIKEWISE THE WORDING OF THE FOURTH PREAMBULAR PARAGRAPH OF DRAFT RESOLUTION L.52 ON THE LANDLOCKED DEVELOPING COUNTRIES SHOULD BE REVISED TO DELETE "SPECIAL MEASURES IN FAVOR OF..." AND TO SUBSTITUTE "SPECIFIC ACTIONS RELATED TO THE PARTICULAR NEEDS AND PROBLEMS OF LANDLOCKED DEVELOPED COUNTRIES."

5. ADDITIONALLY, IN OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH 2 OF L.47 "AND OTHER COUNTRIES IN A POSITION TO DO SO" SHOULD BE INSERTED

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AFTER "DEVELOPED COUNTRIES," AS IS ALREADY THE CASE IN OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH 4 OF L.52.

6. IN OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH 2 OF L.52 WE WOULD NOT WISH TO DEPART FROM THE CAREFULLY WORKED OUT LANGUAGE OF UNCTAD RESOLUTION 98 (IV) WITH RESPECT TO GSP, SO WE SUGGEST DELETING FROM "INCLUDING" TO THE END AND SUBSTITUTING "AND INVITES THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, IN THE CONTINUOUS

IMPROVEMENT OF THEIR GSP SCHEMES, TO GIVE SPECIAL ATTENTION TO THE POSSIBLE INCLUSION OF ADDITIONAL PRODUCTS OF EXPORT INTEREST TO THE DEVELOPING LANDLOCKED COUNTRIES."

7. IN OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH 4 OF L.52, WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE LANGUAGE CHANGED SO THAT COUNTRIES ARE URGED "TO GIVE SPECIAL CONSIDERATION TO PROVIDING" (RATHER THAN SIMPLY "TO PROVIDE") TECHNICAL AND/OR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IN THE FORM OF GRANTS OR CONCESSIONAL LOANS, ETC.

8. OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH 5 OF THE SAME RESOLUTION IS ACCEPTABLE SINCE IT USES THE LANGUAGE SIMILAR TO PARA 74 OF UNCTAD RESOLUTION 98 (IV).

9. IN OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH 6 OF RESOLUTION L.52 WE SUGGEST INSERTING "WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF APPROPRIATE AGREEMENTS" EITHER BETWEEN "FACILITATING" AND "THE EXERCISE OF THEIR RIGHT OF FREE ACCESS TO THE SEA" OR AFTER THE LAST PHRASE. THIS WOULD BE CONSISTENT WITH GA RESOLUTIONS 3169 (XXVIII) AND 3311 (XXIX). HOWEVER, WE WOULD NOT WISH TO GET INTO OPEN DEBATE ON THIS POINT AS IT IS A SENSITIVE ISSUE BETWEEN CERTAIN LANDLOCKED AND CORRIDOR COUNTRIES.
ROBINSON

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